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Sharon, Ken,*

March 2, 1999

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
Mary Ann Wright  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Forest Service  
Liane Mattson  
Manti-La Sal National Forest Service  
599 West Price River Road  
Price, Utah 84501

*Copy Mike, Jim, Paul  
John Larson (2-sided)*  
Bureau of Land Management  
Barry Grosely  
Price Field Office  
P.O. Box 7004  
Price, Utah 84501

Division of Water Rights  
Mark Page  
453 South Carbon Avenue  
P.O. Box 718  
Price, Utah 84501-0718

*ACT 1015/018 #2*

In early 1996 coal operators of central Utah provided a research grant to Brigham Young University (BYU) to characterize the hydrostratigraphy and surface/ground water interactions in the coal mining sequences of central Utah. The research project was conducted by BYU under the direction of Dr. Alan Mayo (principal investigator), Professor of Hydrogeology and Dr. Thomas Morris, Associate Professor of Geology. The purpose of the research was to use existing information to characterize the ground-water flow regimes in the coal producing regions of the Wasatch Plateau and Book Cliffs. The specific objectives of the research were to: 1) Define the hydrostratigraphic units supported by the stratigraphic sequences between the Mancos Shale and the Colton Formation, 2) Characterize the ground-water flow systems in each hydrostratigraphic unit and describe the general interactions between each unit, and between ground waters and surface waters. Listed below are the two master theses completed with the research grant:

***Constraints of Sedimentary, Stratigraphy, and Structure on Conceptual Models of Subsurface Flow Pathways of Springs in the Wasatch Plateau and Book Cliffs, Utah, Todd D. Gibbs, June 1998***

***Hydrologic Characterization of the Coal Producing Sequences within the Wasatch Plateau and Book Cliffs, Utah, Stephen V. Peltier, December 1998***

The coal operators which participated in the funding are listed below:

***Andalex Resources  
Genwal Resources  
Energy West Mining Company***

***C.W. Mining Company  
Canyon Fuel  
Plateau Mining Company***

Huntington Office:  
(435) 687-9821  
Fax (435) 687-2695  
Purchasing Fax (435) 687-9092

Deer Creek Mine:  
(435) 687-2317  
Fax (435) 687-2285

Trail Mountain Mine:  
(435) 748-2140  
Fax (435) 748-5125

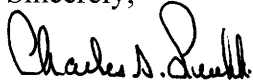
BYU Research Grant

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Enclosed is a paper copy of each thesis. This research sheds valuable insights into the ground-water flow patterns and surface-ground-water interactions which are common to the central Utah coal mining district and which are of interest to Federal and State agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles A. Semborski".

Charles A. Semborski

Utah Coal Operators Association

Chair, Environmental Subcommittee

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